Keeping Children safe Using Technology

How to minimise the risks for your children online

A home/school partnership

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How can children get online?

- **PC**
- Laptops
- Tablets (iPads, etc)
- Games consoles (Wii, Playstation, X Box)
- iPods
- Smartphones
- Smart TV/Blu-ray players
- Watches

What could they be doing online?

- Playing games
- Talking to people (Skype/FaceTime)
- Sharing information
- Searching for information
- Sending messages
- Social networking
- Making friends
- Purchasing goods/apps/services
- Watching clips
- Listening to music

Risks children face online

- Cyber-bullying
- Accessing inappropriate websites
- Losing control over the images and videos they post
- Viruses
- Hacking of files
- Grooming
- Fines for using photos/images without permission
- Slander or contempt of court for reposting tweets and posts

What is cyber bullying?

- Unpleasant things being said to a child.
- Unpleasant things being said about a child.
 - This could be done on social media, using a smartphone and using different apps.

What can we do at school?

- Educate children about this.
- Explain how this can happen and how it can make people feel.
- Explore the impact of these types of behaviours.
- Make them aware of resources and services that can help.
- Ensure they know who they can talk to in school

What can you do at home?

- Monitor the apps children purchase.
- Monitor usage of devices.
- Monitor where these devices are used.
- Support and encourage positive communication.

Accessing Inappropriate Websites

- Using google sometimes key words can trigger responses children weren't searching for.
- Suggested links and clips next to the one your child is viewing on you tube could be inappropriate.
- Inappropriate advertising.

What can we do at school?

- Apply appropriate filtering systems.
- Model how to search safely online.
 - www.safesearchkids.com/google
- What to do if some comes on our screen that is inappropriate.

What can you do at home?

- Filtering/Parental control content to restrict access to particular sites, such as pornographic websites.
- Time limits restrict the amount of time your child can be online, or set periods of time where your child can access certain sites.

Losing control over the images they post.

- Once an image is posted online it becomes public.
- Once an image is text to someone it is no longer yours.

What can we do at school?

- Educate children of the risks.
- Promote safe behaviour and habits.

What can you do at home?

- Educate children of the risks.
- Promote safe behaviour and habits.
- Monitor use of devices

What is grooming?

- Adults befriending children, targeting their weaknesses and tricking them into feeling safe and valued.
- Adults pretending to be children.
- Adults manipulating young children once they have their trust.

What can we do at school?

- Educate children of the issue and how these things can happen.
- Educate children about safe practice online and using devices.
- Make them aware of resources and services that can help.

What can you do at home?

- Educate children of the issue and how these things can happen.
- Monitor use of devices
- Make them aware of resources and services that can help.

Other useful tips

Reach an agreement

A good way to set boundaries with your child about what they can and can't do online is to set an agreement with them.

Here are some examples of the areas you might want to discuss:

- Limits on the amount of time your child spends online, or playing computer games.
- Having regular screen breaks at least five minutes every 45–60 minutes.
- Not sharing any pictures they wouldn't be happy to share with you.

Reach an agreement

- Not giving out personal details, such as mobile phone number and address without parents permission/knowledge.
- Coming to you if they are concerned. Or, if not, knowing where they can go for independent help and support. – report abuse button, childline, CEOP website etc.
- Why not introduce an agreement after watching one of the <u>Thinkuknow films</u>?

Modelling safe behaviour

Teach them how to use mobile phones/social networking safely – use security settings, passcodes, report, block buttons etc.

Show them how you use technology.

Let them teach you

The people who know best about what your children are up to online, are your children! Get them to tell you about the sites they're using. Ask them questions such as:

- Why do they like the site?
- What can they do on it?
- What's so fun about it?
- Who uses it at school?
- Who you can talk to?
- Who are their friends on it?

This is a good way to develop a trusting relationship with your child about what they are up to online.

Resources and Services





Child Exploitation and Online Protection

Tools to protect your children – Further support

- http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/
- Has someone acted inappropriately towards you online, or to a child or young person you know? It may be sexual chat, being asked to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable or someone being insistent on meeting up. You can report it to CEOP.

Resources to support

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_o8auwn JtqE
- We are going to watch this clip so you get a taster of the videos that Think U Know offer as a resource to support teachers and parents.
- Another useful resource is –
- http://parentinfo.org/

Tools to protect your children – Watch the Think U Know films together

- Your child may have watched one of our Thinkuknow cartoons or films at school; they are a great way to start conversations with your child about what can happen online and what they can do about it.
- Ask your child if they have seen any of the films. Why not sit down and watch one together and discuss the topics. We would recommend that you watch the film on your own beforehand so that you're aware of the topics it covers.

What we are doing in school

- Members of staff have been trained to understand e-safety and its implications
- Developed a progressive e-safety curriculum
- Lead assemblies to address e-safety needs
- Completed a risk assessment for children using devices in school
- School policy has been developed
- A guidance sheet for adults in school has been created so they know what to do if a situation arises

What next?

- ▶ Talk to your children about keeping safe.
- Use technology together.
- Encourage and model safe behaviours.